GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5215
ANSWERED ON:05.04.2017
Unnatural and Mysterious Deaths of Scientists
Munde Dr.Pritam Gopinath;Raut Shri Vinayak Bhaurao;Shinde Dr. Shrikant Eknath;Shrirang Shri Chandu Barne;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a)Whether many of the scientists working at Bhabha Atomic Research Centre have allegedly been murdered or committed suicide during the last five years and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b)Whether 197 nuclear scientists of 32 centres have died allegedly under mysterious conditions between the years 1995 and 2015 and if so, the details thereof, year-wise and the reasons therefor;

(c)The number of such incidences of murders/suicides reported, the investigations conducted and the convictions made in the aforementioned cases; and

(d)The other steps taken by the Government provide to ensure adequate protection to the scientists/engineers of the said facilities and BARC?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH):

(a)No Sir. During the period between 01.01.2012 and 31.12.2016, two scientists working at Bhabha Atomic Research Centre committed suicide. The details are furnished in attached Annexure-I. There is no case of murder in Bhabha Atomic Research Centre scientist during the period.

(b)No Sir.

(c)71 cases of suicides were reported in the 20 years period (1995 to 2015). As per available data, 2 cases of murder were reported during the year 2008 & 2013. These figures are much lower than the national average. Police investigation / conviction reports are not available with DAE.

(d)For the security of scientists in the Department, adequate arrangements are in place at the workplace and departmental residential township. Security Awareness Programmes are also being conducted regularly for the scientists of the Department to create awareness about vulnerabilities to the installations as well as employees and measures/precautions to be adopted for the same.Unnatural death of scientists/employees of DAE are always being accorded due importance and this office monitors sensitive cases of death from time to time in consultation with Units, Intelligence Bureau, local police etc.
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Annexure referred to in the part (a) of the statement in reply to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 5215 due for answer on 05.04.2017

DETAILS OF UNNATURAL DEATHS OF THE SCIENTISTSOF BHABHA ATOMIC RESEARCH CENTRE BETWEEN 01.01.2012 TO31.12.2016.

Sl No Date Designation Type of unnatural death Name of investigating agency Causes of unnatural death
1 03.12.2012 Scientific Officer/C Suicide by hanging at residence VashiPolice Station, NaviMumbai Suicide due to personal reasons.
2 14.03.2013 Scientific Officer/D Suicide by hanging at residence Govandi Police Station,Mumbai. Suicide due to personal reasons.

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